United Nations A/72/681/Add.2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 July 2018

Original: English

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 136

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Felipe **García Landa** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 136 are set out in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/72/681, A/72/681/Corr.1, A/72/681/Corr.2 and A/72/681/Add.1.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 36th, 38th, 39th, 46th, 47th and 48th meetings, on 8, 14 and 15 May, 19 and 20 June and 5 July 2018. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records.[1]

3. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Information and communications technology

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of implementation of the information and communications technology strategy for the United Nations (A/72/755/Rev.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the first annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the information and communications technology strategy (A/72/151)

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/7/Add.51)

[1] A/C.5/72/SR.36, A/C.5/72/SR.38, A/C.5/72/SR.39, A/C.5/72/SR.46, A/C.5/72/SR.47, A/C.5/72/SR.48.

Please recycle

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (A/72/371/Add.9)

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/7/Add.47)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (A/72/371/Add.10)

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/7/Add.48)

Revised estimates relating to the restructuring of the United Nations peace and security pillar

Report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 5, Peacekeeping operations, and the proposed budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 related to the peace and security reform (A/72/772)

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/859)

Global service delivery model

Report of the Secretary-General on the global service delivery model for the United Nations Secretariat (A/72/801 and A/72/801/Add.1/Rev.1)

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/7/Add.50)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Administrative support services: the role of service centres in redesigning administrative service delivery" (JIU/REP/2016/11) (A/72/299)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Administrative support services: the role of service centres in redesigning administrative service delivery" (JIU/REP/2016/11) (A/72/299/Add.1)

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/72/L.52

4. At its 48th meeting, on 5 July, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019" (A/C.5/72/L.52), submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representatives of Bangladesh, Israel, Mali and New Zealand.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/72/L.52 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

The General Assembly,

I
Status of implementation of the information and communications technology strategy for the United Nations

Recalling section II of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, its resolutions 63/262 of 24 December 2008, 63/269 of 7 April 2009 and 64/243 of 24 December 2009, section XVII of its resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010, its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011, section I of its resolution 67/254 A of 12 April 2013, section XV of its resolution 68/247 A of 27 December 2013, section II of its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014, paragraph 107 of its resolution 70/247 of 23 December 2015, section V of its resolution 70/248 A of 23 December 2015, section II of its resolution 70/238 B of 1 April 2016, section III of its resolution 71/272 B and its resolution 71/281 of 6 April 2017,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[1] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the first annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the information and communications technology strategy[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Also takes note* of the findings of the report of the Board of Auditors,[2] and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

II
Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling section XXII of its resolution 72/262 A of 24 December 2017 and its resolution 72/263 A of 24 December 2017,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council concerning the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan[4] and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq,[5] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee,[6]

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[1] A/72/755/Rev.1.
[2] A/72/151.
[3] A/72/7/Add.51.
[4] A/72/371/Add.9.
[5] A/72/371/Add.10.
[6] A/72/7/Add.47 and A/72/7/Add.48.

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[4,5]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee,[6] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

3. *Decides* to reduce resources for operational costs by 2,000,000 United States dollars;

4. *Takes note* of paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[7] and decides to establish one position of Senior Programme Officer (P-5) within the proposed Donor Coordination Section;

5. *Decides* not to establish one position of Assistant Human Rights Officer (National Professional Officer) in Herat, Afghanistan, and one position of Human Rights Database Manager (United Nations Volunteer);

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

6. *Decides* to reduce resources for operational costs by 2,000,000 dollars;

7. *Recalls* its stipulation that the use of external consultants should be kept to an absolute minimum and that the Organization should use its in-house capacity to perform core activities to fulfil functions that are recurrent over the long term;

8. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with the responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

9. *Takes note* of paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[8] and decides to reclassify one position of Gender Adviser (P-4) as a position of Senior Gender Adviser (P-5);

10. *Decides* not to establish one position of Human Rights Officer (P-4);

11. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the nationalization of positions, whenever appropriate, as well as to build local capacity within the Mission and to report thereon in the context of future budget submissions;

12. *Decides* to approve a total amount of 255,924,400 dollars net of staff assessment for 2018 for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (147,807,400 dollars) and for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (108,117,000 dollars);

13. *Also decides* to approve a charge of 123,490,900 dollars against the provision for special political missions appropriated under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, after taking into account an amount of 132,433,500 dollars, approved for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and included as a portion of the charge against the provision for special political missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 72/262 A;

[7] A/72/7/Add.47.
[8] A/72/7/Add.48.

III

Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 5, Peacekeeping operations, and the proposed budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 related to the peace and security reform

Recalling its resolution 72/199 of 20 December 2017,

Recalling also its resolution 70/262 of 27 April 2016 on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, and noting that the reform of the peace and security pillar is an opportunity to further advance and strengthen conflict prevention,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[9] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[10]

Commending the Secretary-General for his efforts to enhance the performance of the peace and security pillar of the Secretariat,

Stressing that the actions to restructure the United Nations peace and security pillar should be implemented with full respect for the relevant mandates, decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, without changing established mandates, functions or funding sources of the peace and security pillar,

Stressing also that the prevention of conflicts remains a primary responsibility of States and that actions by the United Nations undertaken within the framework of conflict prevention should support and complement, as appropriate, the conflict prevention roles of national Governments,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[10] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reiterates* its support for the vision of the Secretary-General for reforming the peace and security pillar, and welcomes the whole-of-pillar approach to integrating political and operational responsibilities;

4. *Endorses* the establishment of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations;

5. *Recognizes* the complementary roles of cultural change, leadership and accountability in the success of structural changes;

6. *Notes* that dual reporting lines will exist between the Assistant Secretaries-General heading the single political-operational structure and the Under-Secretaries-General for Peace Operations and for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of dual reporting lines arrangements under close review and to take concrete actions to ensure that line management within the single political-operational structure is clear, coherent and accountable;

7. *Also notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to establish and chair a Standing Principals' Group to provide unified leadership for strategic, political and operational responsibilities to facilitate coherence at Headquarters and in the field, and requests the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the decision taken in the present resolution, to present information on, inter alia, its functioning and composition, to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-third session;

[9] A/72/772.
[10] A/72/859.

8. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to approve the relocation of the D-2 post from New York to Nouakchott;

9. *Decides* to establish four stand-alone divisions for Africa, effective from 1 January 2019, within approved resources, and requests the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-third session information on the organizational structure, taking into account views expressed by Member States;

10. *Affirms*, after considering the report of the Secretary-General, "Middle East Division" as the name of the related new regional division;

11. *Decides* to place the current lead responsibility for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs;

12. *Recalls* paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to consider the three posts in the context of the resolution on the support account for peacekeeping operations;

13. *Takes note* of paragraph 42 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

14. *Recognizes* the important contribution and increasing role of the police component in peacekeeping operations, including their peacebuilding efforts, and requests the Secretary-General to conduct an assessment on the functions, structure, capacity and level of the Police Division in the new structure and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address the issue of equitable geographical representation of Member States, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, at all levels of the two Departments and to intensify his efforts to ensure proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the relevant new departments, taking into account their contributions to United Nations peacekeeping, and to report thereon in the context of future overview reports;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fifth session;

IV
Global service delivery model for the United Nations Secretariat

Recalling section III of its resolution 67/246 of 24 December 2012, paragraph 13 of section VII of its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014, paragraph 19 of its resolution 69/273 of 2 April 2015, section XIX of its resolution 70/248 A of 23 December 2015 and section XVII of its resolution 71/272 A of 23 December 2016,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[11] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee,[12]

Having considered also the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Administrative support services: the role of service centres in redesigning administrative service delivery"[13] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[14]

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[11] A/72/801, A/72/801/Add.1 and A/72/801/Add.1/Rev.1.
[12] A/72/7/Add.50.
[13] A/72/299.
[14] A/72/299/Add.1.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[12] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Takes note* of paragraphs 10, 11 and 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, no later than at the first resumed part of its seventy-third session, a new proposal for the global service delivery model which fully takes into account paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee and the comments, observations and recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit, and to consult with Member States and relevant stakeholders and consider the views expressed by them.